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Notes from KF4LFK (Navin-SWARC President)

Dear SWARC members,

Fellow operators, I hope everyone is enjoying the summer airwaves and finding time to get on the mic. Over the past month, I've been reminded again how strong and welcoming our club community is. Whether it's helping a new licensee make their first contact, troubleshooting a stubborn antenna, or sharing stories at our monthly meeting, you all make this club something special.

We've got a busy month ahead – planning meetings, shack maintenance, and a few exciting events are on the calendar. I encourage each of you to jump in wherever your interests lie — your participation is what keeps our club vibrant.

As always, thank you for your enthusiasm, your curiosity, and your willingness to lend a hand. I look forward to hearing you on the air and seeing you at our next gathering.

On July 29th, 2026, during the 7:30p 2m Ragchew Net, a moment was taken to conduct a final call for the passing of Rose J. Hampton Haberstumpf, widow of Danny Hampton, K4ITL/SK. She was a pivotal part and avid supporter of everything Danny did for Amateur radio. The

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South Wake Amateur Radio Club sends their gratitude and condolences to the family.

See you at the meeting, and on the air.

Finally, please remember our fellow hams and family members who are dealing with various medical situations. Please reach out to these folks. A phone call or text can brighten their day and give them encouragement through their recovery. We ask you to keep the following in your thoughts and prayers: Al, WA4TCJ, Linda, KI4LO, both of whom are limiting outside activities, Gary, KO4LQX, and Kenny, KJ4CVK. In addition, John Poplawski, WB4UFO, is experiencing some medical issues and is facing surgical procedures in the future.

Gary Plante, KO4LQX, reports:

My scans did not show any cancer but just identified the progression of damage from the radiation. I'm finally weaning off the steroids and doing a little better.

Gary

Kenny, KJ4CVK, is in an assisted living facility, in Lillington.
Thanks, and 73,

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Navin

KF4LFW

Notes from KR4KFI (Erick- SWARC VP)

One of the things I've enjoyed most since becoming a ham is seeing how many different interests there are in amateur radio. Whether it's HF, POTA, emergency communications, digital modes, building antennas, or just enjoying a good conversation on the repeater, there's something for everyone.

As Navin and I began planning next year's meeting schedule, we're excited to bring in some new ideas and a wider variety of topics. Our goal is to make every meeting informative, interactive, and enjoyable for both new and experienced operators.

I'd also like to hear from our members. Tell me what you think we're doing well, what you'd like to see more of, and where you think we can improve. If there's a topic, you'd like covered, a speaker you'd recommend, or an idea that would make our meetings even better, I'd love to hear it.

This is your club, and your feedback will help shape where we go next.

73,

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Erick Verry, KR4KFI
Vice President, South Wake Amateur Radio Club

SWARC 1 JULY 2026 Meeting

As always, there were lots of food choices for everyone to partake of so no one should have left hungry, or it was their own fault!!!

Attendees: Dave, (NW3U), Brian (KK4BK), Janet (KB4JSK), Rodney (KO4ZFO), Rich (KR4LH), Steve (NC4SW), Mike (KD4OKR), Bill (KK4QDZ), Erick (KR4KFI), Don (KN4OEY), Paul (KN4NGI), Rich (KZ4ET) and Jane, Tom (KC2QVD), David (KQ4ZLK), Gregg (N9PGG), Diane (KE4VNX),Mike (KD4MC), Navin (KF4LFW), Gator (K4MWG), Mary Alice (KD4OKQ), Mike (KD4OKR), Steve (NC4SW), Steve (WB4SMS), Christy (KJ4AEO) and guest Ava (KR4LVM).

MEETING MINUTES

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gregg (N9PGG) at 7:03 pm and was followed by introductions around the room. Past-President Brian conducted the drawing for the raffle prizes: Steve (NC4SW) won the first prize of the TYT MD-UV380 radio, and DMR hotspot and Steve (WB4SMS) won the second prize of a Alinco DM-330MV power supply.

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Dave (NW3U) announced that the public service event on July 4th could still use some support and he encouraged folks to consider helping.

Mike (KD4OKR) reported on Field Day statistics for the club activity. This was followed by a discussion on various antennas used and band coordination conflicts that should be addressed for next year's event. It was decided that a future meeting topic should be training on N3FJP logging software that was purchased by the club.

The meeting was adjourned around 8:01 pm.

BOARD MEETING REPORT

This is a recap of the notes taken using the AI recording function of Teams.

Date: July 27, 2026
Time: Approximately 6:33-7:07 p.m. EDT
Location: Microsoft Teams
Status: Draft-prepared from the meeting recording and subject to board approval

Attendance

The following participants were identified in the recording: Navin, Erick, Brian, Christine, Richard, Paul, and Mike. Steve Suzanne was discussed but was not present. A quorum was acknowledged near the close of the meeting.

Call to Order

The meeting began at approximately 6:33 p.m. Navin invited Erick to proceed with administrative questions and discussion items.

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Discussion and Business

1. Board meeting schedule and notice

• The board discussed whether to continue meeting before the monthly in-person club meeting or to hold board meetings remotely using Teams.
• Participants noted that remote board meetings would preserve time at the monthly gathering for welcoming and speaking with newer members.
• Brian emphasized that all club members must receive advance notice of any board meeting, including its time and Teams access information.
• No formal motion or vote was recorded. The board expressed general support for remote meetings, provided they are properly announced.

2. Membership engagement and welfare

• Recent net activity and increased participation by newly licensed and prospective members were discussed. Joshua Reeves was identified as a newly licensed operator expected to attend the August 5 meeting.
• Erick volunteered to visit members who are homebound, in assisted living, or otherwise unable to attend club meetings, subject to each member's willingness to receive visitors.
• Members discussed the health and circumstances of Al and Linda Crawford, Kenny Southern, Gary Plante, and John Poplawski. Richard will continue including appropriate updates in the newsletter.
• Christine maintains the membership roster and normally circulates monthly income, expenses, and membership information before the general meeting. Navin and Erick will be added to that distribution.
• The board discussed the importance of keeping the membership roster current, particularly because roster size can affect quorum requirements. No change to the renewal or removal policy was adopted.

3. Programming and member survey

• The recent member survey showed interest in hands-on activities and demonstrations, particularly antenna building and emergency communications.
• The board discussed using other amateur-radio clubs' workshops and show-and-tell gatherings as models while preserving SWARC's social character.
• The board favored interactive, practical programming rather than relying exclusively on guest lectures.

4. Communications systems and officer email access

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• The board reviewed the club's communication channels, including Slack, Facebook, the website, Google distribution lists, membership email lists, and role-based email aliases.
• Paul confirmed that Erick had been added to the appropriate vice-president email routing.
• Paul needs aovin's email address to update the president email alias.
• Paul offered to provide Navin and Erikc with a list of the club's email aliases and their current routing.

5. Facility agreement and internet access

• Navin reported that he and Steve had renewed the American Legion facility rental agreement for the next year.
• The group confirmed that internet service is available throughout the facility, including near the radio shack, and that club use is permitted.

6. Hybrid meeting proposal

• The board discussed adding Zoom access to in-person club meetings for members who cannot attend physically.
• Participants noted both the accessibility benefits and the practical challenges of hybrid meetings, including room audio, remote participation, and equipment needs.
• Erikc and others offered audiovisual or conference-speaker equipment for the effort.
• By general consensus, the board agreed to target the September 2026 club meeting for an initial hybrid Zoom meeting rather than attempting it at the August meeting.
• The September hybrid option should be publicized in advance through the newsletter, nightly nets, the website, and other club communication channels.

7. September program concept

• The board supported proposing an emergency-communications go-kit show-and-tell for September.
• Members would be invited to bring their own go-kits and briefly explain the equipment and how their kits evolved.
• The concept will be raised at the August club meeting and socialized with the membership before the September meeting.

8. Financial planning

• The board discussed reviewing prior-year budgets and planning for recurring costs, club meals, and support for license testing, and materials for hands-on activities.
• Routine expenses include the post office box, banking fees, and Google-related fees.
• Christine will complete the latest financial update and send it to Novin and Eric during the week following this meeting.

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9. Membership director

• The board discussed whether Steve Suzanne would continue as membership director in addition to serving as auditor/member at large.
• In Steve's absence, the board's understanding was that he would continue as membership director. This should be confirmed with Steve.

Decisions and Consensus

1. Remote board meetings may continue if advance notice and access details are provided to the full club.
2. The board will target the September 2026 club meeting for an initial hybrid Zoom option.
3. The board will propose an emergency-communications go-kit show-and-tell for the September program.
4. Navin and Erick will receive relevant membership, financial, and role-based email information.

No formal motions, seconds, or recorded votes were audible in the recording.

Action Items

Erick to send Navin's Gmail address to Paul via Slack direct message. After the meeting
Paul will add Navin to the president email alias. Upon receipt of address
Paul to send Navin and Erick the list of club email aliases and routing.
Not specified: Christine adds Navin and Erick to the monthly financial and membership distribution. Next distribution:
Christine Complete and send the latest financial update. This week
Erick and Navin Coordinate with Christine regarding the current membership roster.
Not specified: Erick will coordinate possible welfare visits with members who are open to visitors.
Ongoing: Richard will continue appropriate health updates in the newsletter.
Ongoing: Board Announce board meetings to the full club with the date, time, and Teams information before each remote board meeting.
Board: Announce the September hybrid-meeting and emergency go-kit show-and-tell concepts at the August 5 meeting
Board: Richard, and Paul will publicize the September hybrid option through the newsletter, nets, website, and other channels before the September meeting.
Board: Confirm with Steve Suzanne that he will continue as membership director. Not specified

Adjournment

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With no further business, the meeting concluded at approximately 7:07 p.m. EDT.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Christy provided her report for this newsletter. July had income of $821.00 comprised of dues, donations, raffle ticket sales and T-shirt sales. Expenses were $274.29 for various fees reimbursement for the Field Day meal. Balance at end of month was $3,542.16.

Public Service

To learn more about future events, you can go to https://hpsnc.org/. The public service season for 2026 is now in full swing!

> *Check the HPSNC.org web site often for Public Service opportunities. The public service season is very active and events need volunteers.* You may also get to public service events on the RARS and SWARC websites.

MEMBERSHIP

It is now time to renew your membership, if you have not already done so. You can pay at a meeting or send a check to the PO Box – OR ->
We currently have a link on our website which allows you to pay your dues or donate. Please let us know when you pay online by emailing me (Christy), so that I can ensure your payment is marked either for dues

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or a donation. The link for SWARC dues is: https://urldefense.com/v3/__https://square.link/u/h0LLrbD6?src=sms/

You can bring a check or cash for dues to the next meeting or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will advise she has received them. Also, you can now renew online by contacting Christy and giving her the appropriate credit card info for the 'Square' account. Christy's email is christyfernandini@outlook.com. Make checks payable to South Wake ARC and send to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

NET REPORTS

If you are a net control, please try to document your check-ins so that we can justify the trustee's provision of the repeater for our nets and other uses. This can be done only on scrap paper, that you provide, and no longer requires entry into the spreadsheet.

- Sunday evenings - KR4LH
- Monday evenings - KO4ZFO
- Tuesday evenings – KD4OKR
- Wednesday evenings except on meeting nights – KF4LFW
- Thursday evenings – KR4KFI

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•Friday evenings - NC4MP
•Saturday evenings – KK4BK

Welcome to new substitute net controllers: CD Murphy (KM4IJK), Bryant Byrd (KQ4UHZ), Al Kinnamon (WA3JJG), and Mark McFarland (KD7AAG).

Please contact Navin Kalicharan (KF4LFW), if you are interested in calling one or more nets. If you are a scheduled net controller and you cannot call your net, please reach out and ask someone else to call it for you!

SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of its members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in

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the Amateur Radio Service. Refer to the SWARC web site for the Board of Directors/Officers and Appointed Positions.

LINKS (if you have other links that you want added, send them to me)

PRN
A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network www.ncprn.net

GigaParts www.gigaparts.com

QRZ www.qrz.com

Ham Radio Outlet HRO www.hamradio.com

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS www.rars.org

Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS www.jars..net

South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC www.southwakearc.com

Carolina 440 Network www.carolina440.net

North Carolina Packet www.ncpacket.com

TARPN (Terrestrial Amateur Packet Radio Net) www.tarpn.net

Useful Ham Info www.torborg.com/a

Five County Ham Radio Enthusiasts www.fivecountyhre.org

Ham Study (Exam Tools) www.hamstudy.org

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Due to formatting issues, I will forward the most recent ARRL News to all members, regardless of your membership in ARRL or not!

The following comments and information are extracted from one of our NC Section Manager's recent monthly newsletters.

ARRL MATTERS:

The ham radio community has likely never had more opportunities to be involved and active!

We have just finished the largest participation event of the year which is Field Day.

Besides the hamfests that are listed in each newsletter, there are numerous opportunities for activation in the Parks on the Air and Summits on the Air program.

The weather, while warm, is not the brutal cold of winter so it is a good time to get outside and work on antennas or to participate in a fox hunt.

When it is too hot or too cold, build something!

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Just think of all the radio-related things that you can be doing that will keep ham radio active and fun for you and others.

Get on the air!

UPCOMING AMATEUR RADIO EVENTS

CAPE FEAR HAMFEST, August 8, sponsored by the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society, held at the Cumberland County Shrine Club, 7040 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville. Information available soon.

Huntsville Hamfest, August 21-23, held at the Von Braun Center, 700 Monroe St., Huntsville, AL 35801

SHELBY HAMFEST 09/04/2026 - 09/05/2026, sponsored by the Shelby Amateur Radio Club, held at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds. Large outdoor flea market, indoor and outdoor space for dealers, forums, license exams, food. Information at https://shelbyhamfest.org/.

SILENT KEYS

When I learn of Silent Keys through a club newsletter or when someone sends a note that a friend, club member or family member has died I notify ARRL and request that the name and callsign of the ham be listed on the Silent Key page in QST. Feel free to let me know about Silent

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Keys so that I can make sure he or she is listed in QST.

OPPORTUNITY TO OPERATE AT NC STATE FAIR

For several years, Travis Russell (KN4WJL) has organized space for ham radio operators to have a tent and table at the NC State Fair (October 15-25). Volunteers are offered free admission if they sign up for one of the six-hour time slots (9am-3pm or 3 pm-9pm over the days that the Fair is open). This involves talking to the public, including kids, about ham radio. Ham radio stations are demonstrated and ARRL literature is provided for distribution to the public. There are lots of food options at the State Fair. If interested, go to https://www.facebook.com/groups/1554722855686391

Best wishes to each of you,

Marv, WA4NC
NC Section Manager
Boone

ARRL North Carolina Section
Section Manager: Dr Marvin K Hoffman, WA4NC
wa4nc@arrl.org

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